PHARMACISTS' BULLETIN

NOVA SCOTIA SENIORS' PHARMACARE PROGRAM

PHARMACARE

NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

September 2006 Vol. #06-11

SEPTEMBER BULLETIN

Low Income Pharmacare for Children

The Nova Scotia Department of Community Services will provide pharmacare coverage for children in low income families, beginning October 1, 2006. Program applications for the Low Income Pharmacare for Children program are now available for families with children under 18 years of age who receive the Nova Scotia Child Benefit and have a household income below $20,921. There will be a $5.00 co-pay for each prescription. Children who are beneficiaries of the Low Income Pharmacare program will be identified by their personal Nova Scotia Health card number. The child's Health Card Number is to be used for submitting pharmacy claims to the Low Income Pharmacare program for Children.

Applications were mailed in September to all families in the province currently receiving the Nova Scotia Child Benefit.

For information on eligibility requirements or to obtain an application form, contact the Department of Community Services toll free at 1-866-424-1269 or visit the Community Services' website at *www.gov.ns.ca/coms/LIPC.html*. Also included with this Bulletin is an Low Income Pharmacare for Children information sheet.

Change to Maximum Allowable Cost List

The Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) on the following categories will be ***effective September 25, 2006*** to reflect changes in the acquisition cost of the lowest priced brand. Enclosed is a replacement pages for your July 2006 MAC List which reflects these changes.

TIMOLOL MALEATE	
0.25% Oph Gel Forming Sol	***2.2820***
TIMOLOL MALEATE	
0.5% Oph Gel Forming Sol	***2.7300***

New Prescribers

The following have been added to the list of prescribers under the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Program.

Prescribing Optometrists

Dr. Krista Flynn	(License #50203)
Dr. Brett Kinney	(License #50205)
Dr. Nathaniel Samson	(License #50200)
Dr. Allison Scott	(License #50204)

Nurse Practitioner

Lena Marie MacDonald	(License #728483)

Please retain for your reference. See the Nova Scotia Formulary for Pharmacare benefits which can be insured if prescribed by these groups of prescribers.

INCLUDED WITH THIS BULLETIN:

- **Replacement page for July 2006 MAC List**
- **Low Income Pharmacare for Children Q & A Sheet**

NOVA SCOTIA
Community Services

LOW INCOME PHARMCARE FOR CHILDREN

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What is Low Income Pharmacare For Children?
The Nova Scotia government is fundin a new program which will provide pharmacare coverage for children of low income families.

Beginning October 1, 2006, Low Income Pharmacare for Children is available for families who receive the Nova Scotia Child Benefit and have a household income below $20,921. Families will pay $5 per prescription - no matter how much the medication costs.

Who is eligible for Low Income Pharmacare for Children?
Low income children's pharmacare is available to families with children under the age of 18, who receive the Nova Scotia Child Benefit and have a household income below $20,921.

Does Community Services provide drug coverage for anyone else?
The Department of Community Services provides pharmacare coverage for more than 50,000 people who receive assistance from the department including income assistance, services for persons with disabilities and family and children's services.

Government also plans to introduce a pharmacare program for working families in 2008.

How do I apply?
Applications for Low Income Pharmacare for Children will be mailed to all families who receive the Nova Scotia Child Benefit in early September 2006. Applications forms are also available on the Community Services web site at: *www.gov.ns.ca/coms/LIPC.html* or by calling us toll free 1-866-424-1269 .

To apply for Low Income Pharmacare for Children complete and sign the application form and mail it to the Department of Community Services at :

Nova Scotia Department of Community Services
Low Income Pharmacare for Children
5675 Spring Garden Road
P.O. Box 696
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2T7

What is the Nova Scotia Child Benefit?
The Nova Scotia Child Benefit is the provincial government's contribution to the federal National Child Benefit (NCB). The Nova Scotia Child Benefit is a tax-free monthly payment made to qualifying families with children under the age of 18.

What if I receive "partial" Nova Scotia Child Benefits, do I still qualify for Low Income Pharmacare for Children?
Yes, any family who qualifies for assistance from the Nova Scotia Child Benefit and does not already have pharmacare coverage is eligible for low income children's pharmacare.

How do I qualify for the Nova Scotia Child Benefit?
To qualify for the Nova Scotia Child Benefit you must file your income tax return each year. For families with a new child, to start receiving the Child Tax Benefit you have to make an initial application to the Canada Revenue Agency. For more information on the Nova Scotia Child Benefit, please contact the Canada Revenue Agency at 1-800-387-1193.

Where can I get more information about Low Income Pharmacare for Children?
For more information about Low Income Pharmacare for Children call the Department of Community Services toll free at 1-866-424-1269 .